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## How much do we get back?



PHOTO BY AIRMAN JONATHAN STEFFEN

**Capt. Amanda Osborne, a student at Air Force Institute Technology, and her husband Luke, work with Tech. Sgt. Ronald Johnson to fill out their taxes at the Tax Center March 10. Sergeant Johnson is a Volunteer Income Tax Advisor. Active-duty, Guard, reserve and retired military members can receive free tax assistance at the Tax Center. Appointments for people needing tax assistance are available from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and 1-4 p.m. Tuesdays. Walk-in hours are 8 a.m.-noon Tuesdays and Fridays. The Tax Center also offers free e-filing. The office is located in the basement of the People Center and can be reached at 552-3832. The tax office is open until April 17.**



**Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle**  
3rd Wing commander

Do you have a problem you can't seem to get solved? Would you like to recognize someone for a job well done?

The commander's action line is your avenue to communicate your questions, comments and concerns directly to the commander, Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle. Your calls will get the commander's personal attention and be answered in a timely manner.

If you have a question, call or e-mail the action line at:

**552-2224**

**actionline@elmendorf.af.mil**

The following commanders stand ready to help you and can answer the majority of your questions. If they can't help, then please call the Action Line.

**Key phone numbers:**

Col. Mike Hass, 3rd CES/CC  
552-3007  
Lt. Col. David Aupperle, 3rd SVS/CC  
552-2468  
Lt. Col. Brett Meyer, 3rd SFS/CC  
552-4304

## Movie goers applaud theater renovations

**Q:** Thank you very much for the new movie theatre.

Even though my family has never complained about the looks of the theatre from the outside, the seats, the sounds of the movie or the snacks, we are very appreciative of what is to come.

We have always told our children that if the base is supplying us with a movie theatre, then we need to use it.

We explained that if we don't

use it and put our money into it, it will fail and close.

However, we sure didn't mind the price to get in either.

Furthermore, we think patrons to movie theatres throughout America should also stand to the National Anthem before a movie, and remember how lucky they are to have the freedom to even go to a movie.

Thanks again from a family who has enjoyed and made great use of the Talkeetna Theatre.

Although we will miss it for a few months, we look forward to its makeover and grand opening.

**A:** Thank you for your comments.

Also, the construction is on-schedule and the Talkeetna Theater is expected to reopen at the end of April.

Ensuring quality of life for our members is, and will continue to be, one of my top priorities.



**Airman 1st Class Michael Crotty**, 3rd Medical Operations Squadron, embodies the ideals of integrity, selfless service and dedication. He has continually been on 24-hour call for emergency procedures for two weeks every month for the past two years. And his meticulous care and expertise as an endoscopy assistant has directly resulted in successful completion of life-saving, urgent and emergency procedures without any complications.

**Staff Sgt. Jason Bobo**, 3rd Component Maintenance Squadron, created a streamlined battery tracking process that ensured 100 percent accountability with instant and accurate status for all aircraft batteries. He rearranged the lead acid battery section, creating a ready line for quick identification of serviceable vehicle batteries. He also displayed attention to detail in recovering a lost tool on an F-15C aircraft, preventing the grounding of a valuable 3rd Wing asset.

**1st Lt. Keagan McLeese**, 19th Fighter Squadron, was selected as the 19th FS Top Gun Wingman of the Year and **Capt. Brad Darling**, 19th FS, was selected as the 19th Fighter Squadron Top Gun Flight Lead of the Year. The two were selected above their peers for most accurate employment of missiles in parameters and the highest air-to-air kill ratio. Their focused tactical performance reflects great credit upon themselves and the 19th Fighter Squadron's combat readiness.



**CORRECTION:** In the March 10 issue of the Sourdough Sentinel, Iditarod musher Maj. (Dr.) Thomas Knolmayer was inadvertently identified as the first active-duty military member to ever complete the nearly 1,150-mile race. Major Knolmayer, 3rd Medical Group chief of surgery, actually was the only active-duty military member to complete the Iditarod in 2005. He is competing in the race again this year.

### Sourdough Sentinel

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For more information, call the *Sourdough Sentinel* office at 552-2493 or 552-8941, e-mail: [sourdough.sentinel@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:sourdough.sentinel@elmendorf.af.mil), fax us at 552-5111, or write to us at: 3rd WG/PA, 10480 22nd St. Ste. 119 Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

## Elmendorf Moment in History

### March 15, 1952:

The 3rd Bombardment Wing flew its first Operation Saturate mission. These missions were directed at destroying sections of the railroad used by North Korea to move supplies and troops. The wing flew 49 B-26 sorties each night supporting the operation.



# Elmendorf clubs revamp available services

By Shena Jones and Al Spurlin  
3rd Services Squadron

Catering to customer needs is the primary concern of every business.

Equally important, however, is being financially sound.

Elmendorf's clubs' food operations, like most clubs in the Air Force, are not financially sound.

The 3rd Services Squadron, in an effort to work these two priorities hand-in-hand, is implementing a new concept for the Elmendorf Clubs, which will change the way they do business. This will be the first base in the Air Force at which the new concept will be used, and it may end up as the template for future Air Force clubs.

For the past few years, Air Force Clubs have been viewed differently as our Air Force culture has changed. Clubs, not only at Elmendorf, but throughout the Air Force, must change to meet the different demands of our customers.

These changes will be in place by July.

The Kashim Club, working with the Armed

Services YMCA, is putting more emphasis on our younger enlisted members with jointly offered events such as Texas Hold 'Em, which takes place Friday nights.

The most notable change to take place at the Kashim Club will be the revival of an evening food operation which will feature home made grilled sirloin steak burgers, char-grilled chicken sandwiches, Philly Steak sandwiches and deep-fried catfish sandwiches as our main menu items.

In addition to the ASYMCA operations, the game room will be upgraded and the lobby will be renovated in the Kashim Club.

The new ASYMCA location, on the second floor of the Kashim Club, is being renovated and should be fully operational in April.

Also, year-round sports and music channels have been added to the lineups available on the wide-screen TVs in

the ballroom. These, along with many other additions are being planned for the Kashim Club.

The changes are happening with emphasis and focus on the needs of the community and work-

ing within the guidelines that Pacific Air Forces states services squadrons must follow in meeting financial operational goals, and ensuring services and products are the best afforded its club members within the given resources. The changes will also enhance facilities and programs at both clubs here.

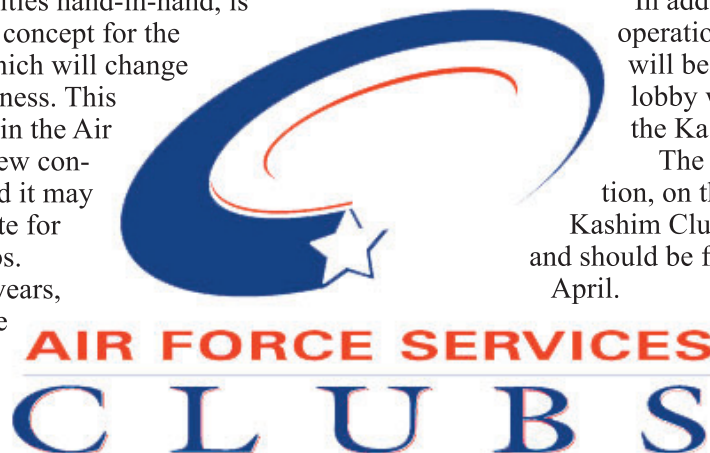
The clubs will continue to provide the meeting and special function needs of the general public and will continue the lounge operations in "The Cave" at the Susitna Club.

The most noticeable change at the Susitna Club will be the cessation of all regularly scheduled food services.

The Susitna Club will be converted to a Conference Center which will have a contracted food catering program available. To enhance the conference experience, people will be allowed to bring their own food. However, there will be a nominal set up charge.

The clubs' operating hours will remain relatively as they are now. The Kashim Club will operate daily, and the Susitna Club, much like its current operations, will be available to book for special functions; "The Cave" will continue to be open on Friday nights.

The clubs are an Air Force tradition, and will continue to provide a safe meeting place for Elmendorf members to enjoy and experience life in the military, both for work and for play.



## Heritage to horizons: Advice from former chiefs spans generations

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein  
Air Force Print News

There is one distinct common observation most former chief master sergeants of the Air Force have about today's Airmen, and that's the level of education and sophistication coming out of today's society.

"[When] you talk about our Airmen of today, you also have to talk about the young citizens of today in America," said retired Chief Master Sgt. James McCoy, who served as the sixth chief master sergeant of the Air Force from August 1979 to July 1981. "They're better educated and they're more attuned to what's going on because of modern communication."

Chief McCoy was one of nine former top enlisted Airmen to gather in Washington recently. During their visit, a number of them were able to share their views on a variety of topics involving the Air Force today and the Air Force past, all the while offering a glimpse of how life was like in Air Force-past.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Robert Gaylor, who served as the fifth chief master sergeant of the Air Force from August 1977 to July 1979, said it's important for Airmen today to know their service's history and heritage.

"You keep from making the same mistakes more than once," he said. "You learn from others. Why reinvent the wheel and make the same mistakes if you can check back and see how someone else did it? You also realize how good you have it today based on what we didn't have years before."

The following are some of their reflections and observations about leadership, today's pedigree of Airmen and the Air Force culture.

### Leadership

"The main thing I was taught – and I continue to teach it – probably the best trait of any leadership is example," Chief McCoy said. "By

setting a proper example, like taking care of your people, by not being so difficult to get along with, by being fair but firm ... all of those are attributes that go into good leadership qualifications."

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Gary Pfingston served as the chief master sergeant of the Air Force from August 1990 to October 1994. He agreed setting a good example is vital to good leadership.

"You manage things and you lead people," he said. "You do that by being up front, honest, sincere and visible. I've always felt strongly that you can't ask somebody to do something that either you won't do, or that you haven't done someplace along the line before. It's not 'do as I say, not as I do' – it just doesn't work that way."

### Quality of Airmen

Retired Chief Master Sgt. James Binnicker served as chief master sergeant of the Air Force from July 1986 to July 1990. He said he's very proud of the Airmen he sees serving today.

"It's safe to say (Airmen today) are more informed thanks to technology," he said. "They are more motivated and it just never ceases to amaze me when I go down to basic training and see the look on their faces (as they graduate)."

He said the motivation and commitment of Airmen coming out of basic training hasn't changed over the years.

"When I was a chief, I had a friend who was also a chief, and one day he called me about his daughter who was attending basic training," he said. "My friend was concerned about her because at home she was always a klutz and he couldn't see her in uniform. So, I went down to basic training and met up with her – with her not knowing her father contacted me.

"And afterward, I called her father again," he said. "I asked him to

describe his daughter again, to make sure I had the right girl. He did, and it sounded about right, but I told him I didn't see a klutz. What I saw was a young woman with a shiny face, bright eyes and oh, by the way, she had a rope on her uniform, which is a sign of leadership. So, I think even parents sometimes sell their kids short, and it's the experience of basic training that brings it out and they come into the Air Force looking for leadership."

### Air Force culture

"I'm looking back at 63 years since I enlisted in the Army Air Corps," said retired Chief Master Sgt. Paul Airey, who served as the first chief master sergeant of the Air Force from April 1967 to July 1969.

"It is impossible to compare the Army Air Corps of yesteryear to the Air Force of today. So when we talk about culture and we talk about tradition and heritage, we do not have much tradition, but we are rich in heritage. And certainly the culture of the Air Force today is a far cry from what it was many, many years ago," Chief Airey said.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Sam Parish, who served as the eighth chief master sergeant from August 1983 to June 1986, agreed today's Air Force culture is different and evolving.

"Changing a culture is not easy in any situation," he said, "and the culture of the United States Air Force has undergone transformation in the '50s because of Korea, in the '60s because of Vietnam, in the '70s and '80s the (Berlin) Wall fell and the '90s was expeditionary. It's a continuous cultural change. And there's nothing about the United States Air Force today – except the name, maybe – that is the same as it was when I retired just a few short years ago."

### Past challenges and lessons learned

Chief Binnicker said the force-

shaping going on in today's Air Force is very similar to what he experienced during his time as chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

"(My time) was the beginning of the drawdown," he said. "People think we are drawing down now, but 20 years ago, in 1986, that was the beginning of 'We're too big and we've got to get smaller.' I don't think we did it very smart back then, but we didn't have many choices. We sort of gutted the senior airman corps and that left us with a 'bathtub' effect, it takes about seven years to grow a staff sergeant, so if you take that chunk out from the senior airman level, you are going to have that hole for a long time."

He added that another issue he had to deal with was an inflated Airmen review process.

"We also took on the almost Herculean task of changing the APR to the EPR," he said. "It was ugly to say the least, in trying to get the force to accept a new performance program. I was convinced that we had to do it because it was very difficult to differentiate, with all these great airmen."

"Well, our problem was that we had so few mediocre people that it's difficult to differentiate between excellence, but differentiate we must," Chief Binnicker said. "We couldn't because it was the same kind of reports. The records all looked alike. I would venture to say the EPR is as inflated as the old APR was 20 years ago, so maybe its time to take another look at it."

*(Editors note: More personal reflections on past chief master sergeants of the Air Force are available in the publication "Generation of Chevrons," which is filled with a brief overview of enlisted Airmen history, as well as personal accounts and biographies from each of the chief master sergeants of the Air Force. It can be found in the publications section of the Web site, [www.airforcehistory.hq.af.mil](http://www.airforcehistory.hq.af.mil).)*



Sourdough Spotlights



**Pacific Air Forces Logistics  
Plans Functional Awards**

**George F. Ruestow Air Force Logistics  
Readiness Senior Civilian Manager of the  
Year**

*Donna Arnold, 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron*

**Fuels Civilian Supervisor/Leader of the Year**

*Patrick Douck,  
3rd Logistics Readiness Squadron*

**Fuels Civilian Technician of the Year**

*William Vaughn, 3rd LRS*

**PACAF Flight Surgeon and  
Operational Flight Surgeon  
Safety Award Winner**

**Flight Surgeon of the Year:**  
*Maj. Mark Shideler, 517th Airlift Squadron*

**PACAF Airfield Operations  
Flight Awards**

**Terminal Instrument Procedures Specialist of  
the Year:**

*Tech. Sgt. David Silvas,  
3rd Operations Support Squadron*

**2005 PACAF Public Affairs  
Media Contest Awards**

**Tabloid Format Newspaper — First Place:**  
*Sourdough Sentinel*

**News Article — First Place:** *Staff Sgt.  
Francesca Popp, 3rd Wing Public Affairs*

**Feature Article — Second Place:**  
*Tech. Sgt. Michael Edwards, 3rd WG/PA*

**Sports Article — Third Place:**  
*Tech. Sgt. Michael Edwards, 3rd WG/PA*

**Photojournalism — First Place:**  
*Airman 1st Class Garrett Hothan,  
3rd Communications Squadron*

**Art/Graphic — First Place:**  
*Senior Airman Miguel Lara III, 3rd CS*

**Contribution by Contractor/Stringer Writer  
— Third Place:**

*Canadian Warrant Officer Cameron Winters,  
962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron*

**Contribution by Contractor/Stringer  
Photographer — First Place:**  
*Tech. Sgt. Keith Brown, 3rd CS*

**Outstanding New Writer —Second Place:**  
*Senior Airman Jared Marquis 3rd WG/PA*

**Print Journalist Of The Year — First Place:**  
*Tech. Sgt. Michael Edwards, 3rd WG/PA*



Celebrating Women's  
History Month



There will be a Women’s History Month Luncheon at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Susitna Club. People interested in attending must R.S.V.P. today.

The cost is \$14.35 for club members, and \$16.35 for nonmembers. The guest speaker will be Lavone Taber Anchorage Women’s Club president. Call Senior Airman Laura Narvaez, 552-9942 or Airman 1st Class Staci Fisher, 552-9986, to R.S.V.P.

**Women’s history fact:** Dec. 4, 1970, Staff Sgt. Carolyn Blansett and Sgt. Cheryl McGhee, 1931st Communications Group, and Staff Sgt. Barbara Johnson, 5008th Support Squadron, were the first women to enter the Alaskan Air Command NCO Leadership School as full-fledged students. Women participated in portions of the course before but never for the full course. They were assigned dormitory rooms on the first floor and were involved in all aspects of the course.

# Former hostage shares lessons with terrorism conference

By Joe N. Wiggins  
Air Intelligence Agency Public Affairs

“They came to the door dressed as plumbers, claiming they needed to fix a leak,” said retired Army Maj. Gen. James Dozier.

But, that was only the beginning of the general’s six-week ordeal as a hostage of the Italian terrorist organization, the Red Brigade. He described his ordeal to a group of conference attendees in San Antonio, Texas, March 10.

“I didn’t know at the time that I or any member of NATO was being targeted,” the general said. “Later I learned they had been observing me and other NATO officials for some time.”

Italian police officials became aware of some of those surveillance efforts by interviewing his wife after his capture.

“Some of them had come into my apartment building in groups of three posing as meter readers,” he said. “When the Italian police heard this, they knew something was wrong because the meter reader worked alone and was authorized to read all the meters in that building.”

As he described each step of his journey, he passed on the lessons he learned to help those in attendance – hoping they will better understand how terrorists operate.

“After hitting me from behind, they then placed me in restraints and in a box marked to look like it contained a small refrigerator,” he said. “I was taken downstairs, into a van and then later transferred into another car.”

Over the next six weeks, he worked to gain the confidence of his captors. He hoped they would see him as a reliable hostage and relax their security around him. He credits this with possibly saving his life when the Italian authorities rescued him.

“I did the same things at the same time every day. I asked for and was given a deck of cards, which helped them to see me as more human rather than just a hostage,” he said.

“I also continually asked about my wife,” he said. “Later, they started bringing me news clippings about her and international versions of American news magazines.

“While using the cards, I kept scores by scratching my fingernail on a piece of cardboard. They later brought me some paper and a pencil, which I used to keep

a diary and track the time,” the general said. “By the time I was rescued, my count of the days I had been held was only off by two.”

He also said that the terrorists didn’t all hold to the same ideals.

“Of the five people they arrested for my kidnapping, one was later linked to 17 murders,

while another one was using his expense account to steal money from the group,” he said. “Some of them were very hard core, while others were just ordinary criminals.”

According to the general, the lessons he learned about the Red Brigade still apply to terrorist groups today.

“They were broken down into regional organizations or columns, a strategic control section and an executive committee, which was the controlling body,” he said. “The columns carried out the decisions passed down from the executive committee, which isn’t very different from the way terrorist groups are organized today.”

His rescuers even used many of the same kinds of tactics used today, including interrogating suspected members, surveillance, creating a distraction, and using speed and surprise when executing the rescue.

General Dozier shared his experiences with 650 people attending the Dynamics of International Terrorism course. Conference attendees included local, regional and federal law enforcement officials as well as military members from all branches including the U.S. Coast Guard.

General Dozier, then the highest ranking Army officer assigned to the NATO, was captured Dec. 17, 1981 by members of the Red Brigade, a Marxist-Leninist group attempting to cause an Italian civil war forcing the nation to leave the NATO alliance.

The Dynamics of International Terrorism course is offered by the Air Force Special Operations School, which is part of the Joint Information Operations University, located at Hurlburt Field, Fla. The Joint Special Operations University was established in September 2000 as an institution of higher learning focused on joint special operations education.

*“After hitting me from behind, they then placed me in restraints and in a box marked to look like it contained a small refrigerator. I was taken downstairs, into a van and then later transferred into another car.”*

– retired Army Maj. Gen. James Dozier



myPay scams

There is an explosion of myPay look-a-like and copycat Web sites. Many of the sites include “myPay” in the Web address — *www.mypay.com*, *www.mypay.se/indexen.html*, *www.mypaysolutions.com* and *www.mypayloanservices.com*.

Members are led to believe that they are in the official myPay Web site and unwittingly give personal information, making themselves vulnerable to identity theft and other problems.

The official myPay Web site is *https://mypay.dfas.mil*.

**Bargain Shop closure**

The Bargain Shop is closed today-March 24 for spring break.

The Bargain Shop will have a bag sale March 31. Shoppers can fill a paper grocery bag full of select merchandise for \$3.

For more information, call 753-6134.

**Free movies**

The Armed Services YMCA will show “Glory Road” at 7 p.m. Saturday at Ft. Richardson Frontier Theater and “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire” at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Kashim Club.

Active-duty members and military families can pick up free tickets at the central office at 7179 Fighter Dr.

For more information, call Taryn Perez at 552-9622.

Learn to quilt

The Armed Services YMCA is sponsoring a quilting class 1-5 p.m. Saturday. The classes take place weekly through April at the Warrior Zone, Bldg. 655, on Ft. Richardson. No child care is available. The first class is a rag quilt. Bring a snack to share.

Call Judy Atkins at 384-9622 for more information, or to sign up and get fabric requirements and cutting instructions.

**Free concert**

The U.S. Air Force Band of the Pacific presents the Alaska Brass in a free concert beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Wilda Marsten Theater at the Loussac Library. This family event features the music of American and Canadian composers.

The doors open 30 minutes before show time and tickets are not necessary. A reception will follow the concert. The Wilda Marsten Theater is on the first floor of the Loussac Library located on the corner of Denali Street and 36th Avenue.

For more information, call 552-7591.

**Home buying seminar**

The Elmendorf Housing Office offers a home buying seminar at 1 p.m. Monday at 6346 Arctic Warrior Dr. The class lasts two to three hours. Seating is limited.

For details or to make a reservation, call 552-4439 or 552-4328.

Open house

The PME Center celebrates its 40th anniversary March 30.

An open house and cake reception begins immediately after the Airman Leadership School/NCO Academy Class 06-3 final retreat at 11 a.m. The open house takes place 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

For more information, call 552-3150.

**Essay, coloring contest**

The Elmendorf Library is sponsoring a Military Child Month essay and coloring contest for children of military parents. Children ages 7 and under can color and display their pages at the library. These pages are available at the Library’s front desk.

Children ages 8-12 can write an essay using the topic “What I like/dislike about being a military child? Why?”

The essay topic for children ages 13-18 is “Words of Wisdoms from the Military Teenagers.”

The essays must be turned in by April 15.

For more information, call 552-2700.

**UAA course, tests**

■ The University of Alaska Anchorage offers a special intensive fundamentals of oral communication course noon-4 p.m. weekdays March 24-April 6 at the Base Education Center.

The two-week course provides three college credits applicable to Community College of the Air Force degree requirements in 10 four-hour sessions.

■ UAA also offers the Meyers-Briggs Type Indicator test and the Strong Interest Inventory Profile tests for spouses and dependents. These tests are designed to help make career choices.

For details, call 753-0204.

**Absentee voting**

Elections for the Municipality of Anchorage are April 4. For eligible residents who cannot make it to the polls due to the Polar Force exercise, Anchorage has several absentee voting options. For more information about voting absentee, go to the city’s election Web site at [www.muni.org/assembly2/election.cfm](http://www.muni.org/assembly2/election.cfm).

**For Sale Lot**

Items placed in the For Sale Lot must have a current state registration and base sticker.

The cost to place an item there is \$2 per day with a seven-day minimum. Payment envelopes and instructions are located at the lot. There are no refunds.

Vehicles and other items not in compliance will be removed.

**Weapons registration**

Military members residing in base housing, temporary lodging, and dormitories must register their privately owned weapons with the 3rd Security Forces Squadron Armory.

Housing residents may store their weapons in quarters, but must use gun cabinets, mechanical locks or other safety devices to render it inoperable.

Weapons are not authorized in the dormitories or temporary lodging units. These weapons must be stored in the 3rd SFS armory upon arrival.

For details, call the 3rd SFS at 552-6576.

**Elmendorf year tabs**

The Elmendorf Pass and Registration Office has extended the 2005 tab renewal grace period until further notice due to a shortage of Air Force Registered Vehicle Expiration Stickers.

Once adequate supplies of stickers are received, people needing to renew their year tab must show current proof of insurance and vehicle registration.

The Elmendorf Pass and Registration Office is located in the basement of the People Center.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Amy Anderson at 551-3202.

**Volunteers needed**

■ Volunteers are needed for the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. This event takes place 9 a.m.-noon April 8 at the Susitna Club.

Volunteers will run craft tables, assist with the cooking and clean up, and dress up in the bunny suit.

To volunteer, call Lauren Mc-Grain at 552-8529.

■ The 26th National Veterans Wheelchair Games Organizing Com-

mittee is seeking 2,000 volunteers to help prepare for events and coordinate logistics for the NVWG June 28-July 9.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs from food service, to transportation, site setup, scoring, timing, registration, photography and water distribution. Volunteers will receive a free T-shirt. Food will be provided to anyone who works more than a four-hour shift in a day.

To download a volunteer application, visit [www.wheelchairgamesanchorage.net](http://www.wheelchairgamesanchorage.net).

To request more information, e-mail [volunteers@alaskadestinations.com](mailto:volunteers@alaskadestinations.com) or call 276-5550. For more details, visit [www.wheelchairgames.org](http://www.wheelchairgames.org).

**NMFA Family Award**

The National Military Family Association is accepting nominations for the NMFA Family Award to be presented to 12 families each year who exemplify the best of the military family lifestyle.

Each winning family will receive a cash prize and be eligible for the NMFA Family of the Year.

Any active duty, reserve component, or retired family of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, as well as surviving families, or families of servicemembers who were injured in the line of duty within the past three years and have since been discharged, are eligible to apply.

Nominations must be submitted online at [www.nmfa.org/familyaward](http://www.nmfa.org/familyaward).



**Chapel Schedule**

**Catholic Parish**

■ **Monday through Wednesday and Friday Mass:** 11:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center

■ **Thursday Mass:** 11:30 a.m. at the Hospital Chapel

■ **Sunday Mass:** 10:30 a.m. at Chapel 1

■ **Sunday Evening Mass:** 5 p.m. at Chapel 2

■ **Confession:** 4:30 p.m. Sundays at Chapel 2

■ **Catholic Religious Education:** 9 a.m. Sundays at the Chapel Center.

■ **Stations of the Cross** begin at 6 p.m. today, March 24 and 31 in Chapel 2 followed by dinner.

**Protestant Sunday**

■ **Liturgical Service:** 9 a.m. at Chapel 2

■ **Traditional Service:** 9 a.m. at Chapel 1

■ **Gospel Service:** noon at Chapel 1

■ **Fellowship Praise:** 6 p.m. at Chapel 1

■ **Protestant Sunday School:** 10:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center.

For more details, call the Chapel at 552-4422.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT

### Army Staff Sgt. Matthew Pittman

**Organization and duty title:** Alaskan Command human resources sergeant  
**Hometown:** Newberry, Fla.  
**Hobbies:** Fishing and hunting  
**Mission contributions:** Provide personnel support for all U.S. Army members assigned to Alaskan Command headquarters  
**Time at Elmendorf:** One year, one month  
**Time in the Army:** Eight years, six months  
**Best part about being in Alaska:** The summers  
**Quote from supervisor:** “Sergeant Pittman professionally performs his duties as the Army human resource sergeant. He continually provides expertise on operation plans, personnel augmentation requirements and Army personnel policies and procedures in addition to performing routine personnel actions for sister service members.” Senior Master Sgt. Mary Bousson



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DAVID DONOVAN

### Staff Sgt. Nicole Frost

**Organization and duty title:** 3rd Comptroller Squadron accounting technician  
**Hometown:** Uniontown, Pa.  
**Hobbies:** Swimming and dancing  
**Mission contributions:** Account for all government purchase card bills for Elmendorf. Provides financial management assistance to resource advisors and acts as a liaison between Elmendorf and Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Hawaii for accounting transactions.  
**Time at Elmendorf:** Five months  
**Time in the Air Force:** Eight years, six months  
**Best part about being in Alaska:** The friends I’ve made  
**Quote from supervisor:** “Sergeant Frost exudes professionalism in all she does. Her will to learn and master tasks as well as lead by example shows her commitment to her unit, the 3rd Wing and to the Air Force.” Marian Lee

# Elmendorf Airmen receive nonjudicial punishment

## Article 15s:

An airman with the 3rd Component Maintenance Squadron received a vacation action for being late to work.

A vacation action imposes a suspended punishment that had been adjudged by a previous Article 15. In this case, his punishment was forfeiture of \$323.

An airman first class with the 3rd CMS used indecent language with a person under age 16.

His punishment was a suspended reduction to airman, forfeiture of \$100 per month for two months and 14 days extra duty.

An airman first class with the 3rd Medical Operations Squadron was caught using a fake identification card, and then made a false official statement.

Her punishment was a suspended reduction to airman, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

A master sergeant assigned to a squadron in the 3rd Operations Group committed adultery with a senior airman in his section.

His punishment was a reduction to technical sergeant, suspended forfeiture of \$500 per month for two months and 30 days extra duty suspended.

A senior airman with the 3rd Operations Support Squadron wrongfully used marijuana.

Her punishment was a reduction to airman first class, with a suspended reduction to airman.

A senior airman with the 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron was caught living in his girlfriend’s dorm room.

His punishment was a reduction to airman first class, with a suspended reduction to airman, suspended forfeiture of \$713 for two months and 30 days extra duty.

An airman first class with the 3rd EMS damaged government property by throwing a rock and breaking a window on a forklift.

His punishment was a reduction to airman with a suspended reduction to airman basic, suspended forfeiture of \$636 for two months and 30 days extra duty.

*(Courtesy of the 3rd Wing Legal Office)*



COURTESY PHOTO

## What to eat?

**Capt. Matthew Hill (front) and Tech. Sgt. Melinda Smith, 3rd Wing Legal Office, select Meals Ready-to-Eat to get them through the five-day Pacific Joint Legal Exercise March 5-10. Captain Hill and Sergeant Smith were two of nearly 30 legal professionals participating in PACJOLE at the Pohakuloa Training Area on the island of Hawaii. The exercise focused on legal issues in a deployed environment.**

# Military members help ‘special’ athletes



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SUELLYN NUCKOLLS

Special Olympian Bryan Carey and Staff Sgt. Christopher Block, 3rd Services Squadron, wait to go up on the slope for Bryan’s second run. Sergeant Block was a volunteer coach for Bryan at Hilltop Ski Area during Special Olympics Alaska Winter Games Saturday and Sunday.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SUELLYN NUCKOLLS

Staff Sgt. Cassidy Wilson, 732nd Air Mobility Squadron, watches the Special Olympics athletes come down the hill and ensures they hit all of the gates before crossing the finish line. The Special Olympics Alaska 2006 Winter Games drew nearly 275 athletes, coaches and volunteers to Anchorage March 10-Sunday. The Winter Games are one of four major Special Olympics Alaska events held each year. Summer Games are in June, Fall Games are in September and a Bowling Tournament is in November.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SUELLYN NUCKOLLS

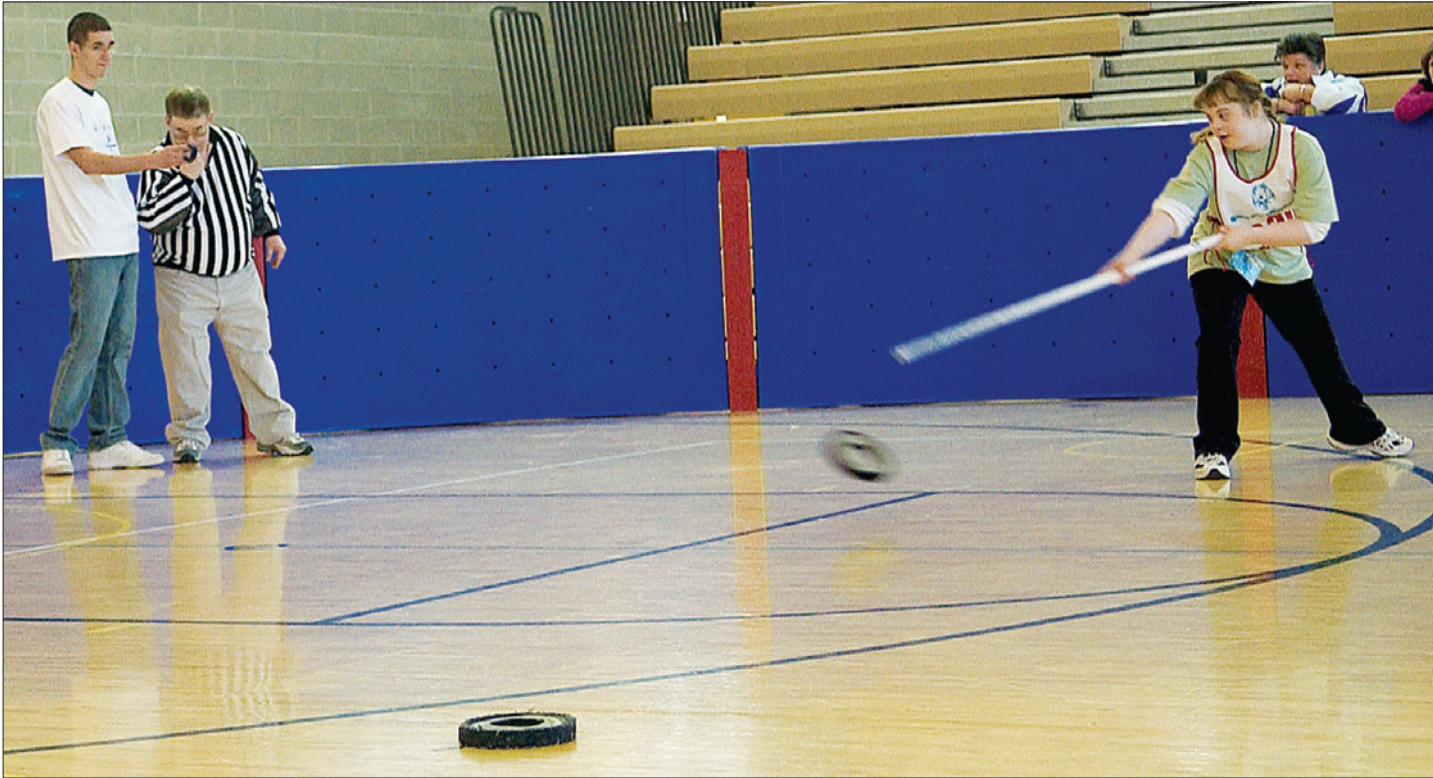


PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT

Airman 1st Class Zach Davis, 381st Intelligence Squadron, keeps track of time for the referee during the timed puck shoot as part of the individual floor hockey skills competition of the Special Olympics at South High School Saturday.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT

Airman 1st Class Zach Davis, 381st Intelligence Squadron, helps set up the net for the Special Olympics floor hockey event.



Special Olympics

# Parachute shop: Pilots last chance for survival

By Senior Airman Jared Marquis  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

If something goes wrong and a pilot has to eject, the last thing they should worry about is whether or not their parachute will open. Twenty-three Elmendorf Airmen make sure that they don't have to.

"We take our job very seriously with the understanding that we cannot make a mistake. We know that if our equipment is being used that someone is counting on us, and trusting us with their life," said Tech. Sgt. Roscoe Youngblood, 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron Survival Equipment Shop.

"We maintain, inspect and repack more than 200 different components such as life rafts, life preservers, flight suits, anti-gravity suits, anti-exposure suits, back automatic personnel chutes, drogue parachutes, and the Advanced Concept Ejection Seats," said Sergeant Youngblood "It is our job to work hand-in-hand with egress and life support to provide aircrew one last chance for life when all else fails."

The average day of someone in the survival equipment shop consists of inspecting, and repacking parachutes, said Sergeant Youngblood.

"It takes six hours to complete this task. It may take longer if there is a time change component needing to be replaced due to expiration of service life, or if a repair is needed," he said.

The survival equipment shop is responsible for keeping

equipment ready to use for the five Elmendorf flying squadrons and six different aircraft models, including the C-130H, C-12, E-3B, and F-15C/D/E.

The members receive their training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, during an almost 15-week tech school, followed by four volumes of Career Development Courses and 15-month upgrade training.

The men and women of the survival equipment shop are aware that their equipment is usually only used in dire situations.

Senior Airman Michael Jenkins, 3rd EMS survival equipment craftsman, said the importance of his job is why he chose it.

"I like survival equipment because on a daily basis I can see the effects it has on other people's lives. There was an F-15E crash at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., in 2003 which forced the crew to have to eject. I packed the ACES II parachute that saved those crewmembers lives and I am proud to know my skills did that.

"I chose this career because it is a humble and self rewarding job with all the benefits of knowing that survival equipment is the last to let you down," he said.

"Our motto is 'Last to let you down,' because everyone else who may make a mistake counts on us not to. If an emergency egress situation arises, we are the ones you trust with your life," said Sergeant Youngblood.



Above: Airman 1st Class Mathew Laughlin, 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, repairs a zipper on a flight suit using a Technical Operations Manual as a reference.

Left: A survival equipment troop repairs a zipper. The members of the shop are charged with inspecting and maintaining a variety of egress equipment.

Below: Senior Airman Michael Jenkins prepares a parachute to be repacked.

Photos by Senior Airman Garrett Hothan



Above: Senior Airman Bill Payne, 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron Survival Equipment Shop, repairs a four-line harness on a parachute.

Top center: Stenciling an LPU 38/P life preserver is part of a functional inspection that guarantees the equipment is in working order.

Bottom center: A parachute is stretched out to be inspected and repaired. The inspection process can take up to four hours.

Right: Senior Airman Nick Spring hems a large piece of material to form a stab pad.





# Services Eaglet

"Telling the Services Story" in daily activities and special events for the Elmendorf community



To apply, submit an application and essay (one per attending family member) to the Elmendorf Youth Center by April 10. The course takes place June 25-July 2 in Colorado Springs, Colo. Participants will be offered a variety of activities such as ropes course, horseback riding, white water rafting, hiking and rock climbing. Transportation to and from Colorado is the attendee's responsibility. Active-duty Air Force, Air Guard and Reserve members who can prove an upcoming or previous deployment will be given priority.

## Parent Teen Outdoor Adventure Camp



Youth Center  
552-2266

## Elmendorf Eagles Basketball Tryouts

6-8 p.m. Today  
1-3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday  
Ft. Richardson  
Fitness Center



The Elmendorf men's basketball team needs players to compete in base-level sports. Come ready to jump into the action. Comradery, respect and team pride are just a few of the perks. Call Tech. Sgt. Darryl Sample at 230-7965 or Staff Sgt. Thomas Jones at 830-0095.



## Slush Cup Season Finalé 2 p.m. March 26

noon-7 p.m.  
March 25 and 26  
Hillberg Ski Area

Tubing

Ski and Snowboard Races  
Big Air and Rail Competition



### Today

**Snowmachine Trip** 5 p.m., \$50, Hillberg Ski Area, 552-4527

**RC DJ (The Rajun Cajun)** 9 p.m.-3 a.m., adults only, Kashim Lounge, 753-6131

**Southern Barbecue Buffet** 5:30-8:30 p.m., \$8.95 *Members First* price, \$11.95 regular price, children 6-12 eat for \$4.50, Susitna Café, 753-3131

**Club Member Social Hour** 5-6 p.m., adults only, Kashim Lounge, 753-6131 and The Cave, 753-3131

**Night Hoops** 8:45-11:30 p.m. at the Youth Center gym, Teen Center, 753-2371

**St. Patrick's Day Party** 8 p.m., play silly games and win prizes with the Armed Services YMCA for not wearing green, beverage specials, food and lots of fun, Kashim Club, 753-6131

**Beginner Crochet** 6-8 p.m. today and March 24, \$35, bring yarn and needle, Arts & Crafts Center, 552-7012 or 552-2470

**Report Card Special** 4-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday, one free game for "A's" or "O's," limit three games, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

### Saturday

**Hillberg Ice Fishing Tournament** noon-4 p.m. at Hillberg Lake, prizes, Outdoor Adventure, 552-4527

**Cross Country Ski Waxing Clinic** 1 p.m., Outdoor Recreation, 552-2023

**Karaoke** 9 p.m., adults only, Kashim Lounge, 753-6131

**Xtreme Bowling with DJ** 9 p.m.-1 a.m.,

\$18 includes shoe rental, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

**Kids Corner "Candle Art"** 1-3 p.m., ages 3-10, \$15, Arts & Crafts Center, 552-7012 or 552-2470

**Give Parents a Break** 1-5 p.m., must have a referral, care given at the Sitka Child Development Center, make reservations by calling the Denali CDC, 552-8304

**Pottery - Sculpting and Hand-Builders Club** 11 a.m.-2 p.m., \$65, Arts & Crafts Center, 552-7012 or 552-2470

### Sunday

**Hillberg Sourdough Races** 1 p.m., races for snowboarders and skiers, \$2 race entry, bring a trash bag for the "Prospector's Pancho" race, Hillberg Ski Area, 552-4838

**Family Xtreme Bowling** 1-8 p.m., \$30 for up to six bowlers, shoe rental, one lane for two hours, two pitchers of soda and popcorn, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

**Snowmachine Trips** noon, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., \$50, Hillberg Ski Area, 552-4838

**Beginner Cross Country Ski Lessons** 1 p.m., \$5 or free if skis are purchased or rented for the season from Equipment Rental, 552-2023

**Sunday Brunch** 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., \$16.95 *Members First* price, \$19.95 regular price, \$7.95 for children age 6-12, Susitna Café, 753-3131

**Roller skating at Skateland** 1-5 p.m., \$6.50, ages 9-12, limit 13 participants, Youth Center, 552-2266

**Spring Break Bowling Special**

11 a.m.-3 p.m. today thru March 24, 50 cents per game ages 18 and under, 75 cents for adults, Polar Bowl, 552-410

**Gray Whale Season Begins** make your cruise reservations with Information, Tickets & Travel, 753-2378

### Monday

**E-4 and Below Special** 5-9 p.m., 50 percent off bowling and shoes. If the military member is deployed, their family can still participate, just bring a copy of the orders, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

**Alyeska Ski Trip** 8 a.m.-7 p.m., \$49 with equipment from Equipment Rental, \$37 without equipment, \$10 transportation only, Information, Tickets & Travel, 552-0297

**Spring Break Arts & Crafts Camp** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. today thru March 24, \$130, ages 5-15, Arts & Crafts Center, 552-7012 or 552-2470

### Tuesday

**Dollar Daze** 5-9 p.m., \$1 per game, \$1 for shoe rental, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

**Lunch and Learn "Bed Time Fun"** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., open to the public, Sitka CDC, 552-6403

**Trip to H2Oasis** 10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$15, ages 9-12, limit 13 participants, Youth Center, 552-2266

### Wednesday

**Wednesday Night Madness** 5-9 p.m., \$18 per lane, up to five bowlers, shoes not included, Polar Bowl, 552-4108

**Barbara Lavallee presents Preschool**

**Story Hour** 10:30-11 a.m., ages 5 and under, Library, 552-3787

**Take It, Make It Crafts** 11-11:30 a.m., ages 5 and under, Library, 552-3787

**Barbara Lavallee print and book signing** 11:30 a.m., meet Alaskan artist, Library, 552-3787

**Introduction to Photography** 5:30-9:30 p.m., \$5, bring camera, limit six people, Arts & Crafts Center, 552-7012 or 552-2470

**Bike Maintenance Clinic** 1 p.m., \$5, Outdoor Recreation, 552-2023

### Thursday

**Free Lift Ticket** 5-9 p.m., receive a complimentary lift ticket with the rental of a complete \$6 ski package or \$7.50 snowboard package, Hillberg Ski Area, 552-4838

**Keystone Club Field Trip to Mountain View Boys and Girls Club** 5-8 p.m., ages 13-18, Teen Center, 753-2371

**Bingo** 6 p.m., adults only, \$10 cards, one jackpot worth \$1,000, Arctic Oasis Community Center, 552-8529

### March 24

**Teen Trip to Dimond Mall and Movie** 3-8 p.m., ages 13-18, \$8, Teen Center, 753-2371

**Hilltop Ski Trip** 8 a.m.-7 p.m., \$49 with equipment from Equipment Rental, \$37 without equipment, \$10 transportation only, Information, Tickets & Travel, 552-0297



# SPORTS PAGE



Dennis Wright, 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron Munitions Flight, jumps over an obstacle as part of the Eagles baseball tryouts. Team coach Shane England said 16 people showed up to the tryouts. He added that they may be looking for a couple more players. Anyone interested should call him at 580-2112.

Sean Carroll, 381st Intelligence Squadron, runs between gloves and fields ground balls during tryouts for the Elmendorf Eagles Adult baseball team March 7-9. The team is part of the Anchorage Adult Baseball League, and will start play in May. The team also participates in various tournaments throughout the season, which ends in early September.



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT

## Sport Shorts

### Black Sheep Archery Club

■ Black Sheep Bowmen Archery Club target leagues begin at 7 p.m. Thursdays through March.

Cost is \$6. Leagues are open to everybody

■ Youth archery classes take place 10 a.m.-noon April 8-May 13. The classes are for children ages 8-16.

The classes are free. Bows and arrows are provided. Parental supervision is required.

The class is open to military and civilian families.

■ The range is located at Bldg. 7271 on Gibson Avenue.

For more information, call 753-1855 or visit [www.black-sheeparchery.com](http://www.black-sheeparchery.com).

### Cross country ski returns

Season rentals must be turned in no later than April 15 at Equipment Rental.

### Fishing licenses

Alaska 2006 fishing licenses and king stamps are available at Outdoor

Recreation. The staff can also stamp a license for fishing on Elmendorf.

### Storage lot combo changes

Outdoor Recreation will change the lock combinations on all RV storage lots May 1. Stop in or call 552-2023 for a new combination.

### Camper reservations

Outdoor Recreation will begin taking reservations for camper rentals beginning April 15. Camper rentals must be done in person at 7301 Jerstad Ave.

### Bicycle tune-up

Bike maintenance clinics begin at 1 p.m. April 15, 22 and 29 at Outdoor Recreation.

### Skeet tourney

The Alaska Armed Forces Skeet Championship takes place May 4-7 at the Ft. Richardson Trap & Skeet Range. The cost is \$28 per gauge/100 bird event.

For more information, call Henry Martin at 552-2817 or Paul Taitt at 552-6669.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT

### Have a ball

Daisy Vyvial, 3rd Aerospace Medicine Squadron (center), teaches students how to exercise using the stability ball at the Health and Wellness Center. People who are interested in learning how to use a stability ball can attend a class beginning at 1 p.m. April 6, May 4 and June 1. For more information or to sign up, call 552-2361.